

## REMARKS

The Examiner has required election of one of six (6) claim groupings identified in the Office Action mailed September 7, 2007.

Applicants hereby elect Group II, claims 12-18, without traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

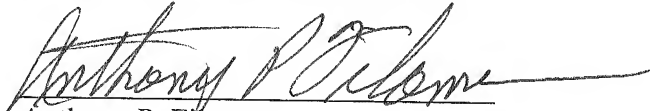
Accordingly, in order to expedite prosecution of the application, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-11 and 19-44 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Applicants have also added new claims 45-57 which all ultimately depend from base claim 12. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12-18 and 45-57 are in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is asked to call Applicants' attorney, Anthony P. Filomena at 919-861-5092, to address any outstanding issues in order to expedite the prosecution of this application for all parties.

Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this Response be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans, Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP



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